

Topic	Living with a Passionate Vision
Reference	Matthew 25:31-46
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We are here in the world to reach people for Lord Jesus Christ and that's what the Lord Jesus Christ wants us to do. The more I think about the vision that God has given to us, I believe that this vision can be spread across the entire face of the earth. That wherever we go, we know that Jesus Christ is not one of the saviors of the world, He is not the best savior of the world, because Jesus Christ is the only savior of the world.

In almost every part of the New Testament, there is a command and illusion to go and preach the glorious gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Whether it is found in Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15 or you find it in Luke 24:48, John 20:21, Acts 1:8 or Romans 1:16 and even 1-Corinthians 9:16 when apostle Paul says, woe is me if I preach not the gospel of the lord Jesus Christ. Of course, in 2-Corinthians 4, he says that God of this world has blinded the eyes of the people, so that they cannot see the glorious light of Lord Jesus Christ. So, there is always an illusion to the preaching of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. You know, as we live on the face of this earth, we know that Lord Jesus is coming back soon. In fact, his coming is so soon that many signs are pointing towards his return. He is the only person in the world who dares to say, I shall return.

In our today's passage, I have a very simple question. That passage about Judgement Day, but yet there is one question I've in mind for you and for me, when Jesus our Lord is sitting on the great white throne, will there be more sheep or more goats. You see Jesus while He was sitting there, he was dividing the people to the right and then to the left. They are called sheep because they did what the father wanted them to do. The goats are those who did not obey the word and commands of God, but yet we are living in a world that is progressively getting more and more people. Today the world has more than 7 billion people. If Jesus does not return in the next 20 years, the population will double. That means there will be probably much more people living on the face of this earth then the entire history of the whole world and what you do with the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ will determine whether there will be more sheep or there be more goats.

Everybody wants to talk about evangelism. We talk about it, we share about it and we praise God for it, but how many of us are really doing the work of evangelism. When it comes to other church ministries, we have storms of people coming, we love it to get together, to fellowship, to become friends, but how about doing evangelism. I believe that evangelism is more than just presenting the four spiritual laws or the bridge to life illustration or conducting an alpha course.

I believe that you and I must not only preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, but the Lord also tells us that we must feed in Jesus name, we must give in Jesus name, we must clothe in Jesus name, we must love in Jesus name and we must visit in Jesus name, because the whole thing about presenting the gospel is that it is a holistic thing. God wants every aspect of our life to be touched by the gospel, because the word of God is sufficient, and the grace of God is sufficient for all of this. So, what then is evangelism. I believe that evangelism is like Dr Billy Graham said, presenting the whole person of Jesus Christ to the whole person by the whole church to the whole world. This is work for everyone who is the member of the body of Jesus Christ. We must be in the business of doing evangelism and the church will only be doing evangelism when the church is united. When the church loves Jesus Christ with all of our heart, mind, soul and strength, that's how we can tell the world that God sent Jesus Christ to be the only savior of the world.

Jesus Christ loves you and this is the greatest truth and reality in the entire universe. So then as we think about evangelism, lets talk about the perspective of the church. I look at the church two aspects; one is the inward-looking nature of the church and secondly the outward nature of the church.

I think nowadays we have nice beautiful buildings, we have good cushion seats, we have fantastic music and we have good worship. We are always doing a lot of things that's wonderful, but have we become inward looking. In some churches, they want to bring in the speakers that make the Bible alive. A lot of times church programs is really for us. Are we like that?

The church must also be a hospital because the church must be a place where those who are disadvantaged, those who are sick, those who are needy, we must reach out to them, we must love them. But we cannot continue to be a hospital maintenance unit, the church needs to be an army of gorilla that will penetrate into enemy territories, into the gates of Hades and snatch souls out of the clutches of the evil one. The church must be the most powerful force on the face of this earth.

People need the Lord and we need a vision of the lost humanity. Today, people without Jesus Christ in their hearts, they are lost, only by the name of Jesus Christ a person can be saved. We need a vision of the Holy Spirit.

What is a vision?

A Vision is God's revelation of WHO He wants us to be and WHAT He wants us to do for His kingdom.

If your Vision is small, your work will be small, but if your Vision is big, your work will commensurate with your Vision.

It all comes back to what is your vision. When Isaiah saw God in his splendor, he knows that there is a great work to be done. Isaiah said, Lord send me.

A. VISION OF A LOST HUMANITY

- There are still more than 6000 unreached people groups in the world.
- Many of them live in the 10/40 window where 97% of the Unreached People Groups are located.

B. VISION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

We need the Person and Power of the Holy Spirit.

- When He came, the church was born and empowered in Acts.
- He's the One who converts and gives us Eternal Life.
- He's the original Transformer.
- He's the Author of the Bible.
- He's the Giver of spiritual gifts for service and ministry.
- He's the One who empowers us everyday.
- History is His Story!

Passion for Souls

1. A Single Passion
2. A Heart Passion
3. A Life Passion

Winston Churchill said when Nazi's were conquering Europe,

You ask, what is our policy? I can say: it is to wage war by sea, land, and air with all our might.

Those word of Churchill stir the whole British parliament to their feet and then they started to join forces with Americans and Russians to defeat Nazi forces.

Here is a man with passion, he had a passion for victory but today we have a greater passion than this, because it is not about dying on the war and losing our homes and loved ones, but we are talking about passion that will determine the eternal destinies of people. Whether it will be found in the kingdom of God or they found on the other side. There are two kinds of people in the world, either you are follower of Jesus Christ or you are not, but we believe that when Jesus came he is the light of the world that whoever walks after him will never walk in darkness but shall have the light of life and I believe that this day God wants us to know that there is a great work for us to do.

Churchill was concerned about victory at all cost, as without victory there is no survival, but for us it is more than survival. It is the eternal destinies of people. We need to have that single passion. Jesus's one desire was to save the lost. What is the one thing that you want to do? Jesus had a passion for the people, but do we have the passion for souls.

A HEART PASSION:

I believe that without love we can never change the world. In love we make the unequals equal. God is love, love is not God and that is what is wrong with this world today. God loves because it decides the best for you and for me. God loves because he does the best for you and for me. He gave his only son Jesus Christ. That's what love is all about. "Love ought to be the reason and result of all we do for Christ."

A LIFE PASSION:

We have to be in love with Jesus Christ as a lifelong passion. Jesus says, whoever wants to follow me must hate his father, mother, wife, children and spouses including himself or you are not worthy of me.

PERSONAL RESPONSE TO GOD:

- A. Set our eyes on Jesus and how He evangelizes
- B. Spiritual Passion on Fire
- C. Seize every Opportunity
- D. Strategy - Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

Set our eyes on Jesus and how He evangelizes

Set our eyes on Jesus and how He Evangelizes
Jesus' style was always Person-centered

Jesus meets Nicodemus and it was person-centered. Jesus meets the Samaritan woman and it was also person-centered.

- I. Detouring from the road most travelled
- II. Creating interest
- III. Going against the norm
- IV. Bringing the Physical to the Spiritual.
- V. Showing the Unknown from the Known
- VI. Handling Distractions
- VII. Revealing the Savior
- VIII. Witnessing happens best in Relationships
- XI. Confronting sin
- X. Ready for god's harvest
 - Jesus Meets Zacchaeus
 - Jesus meets the rich young ruler

Spiritual Passion on Fire

- Kindling Passion through laying on of hands
- Maintaining Passion through:
 1. Visiting the Cross of Jesus often
 2. Drawing near to God, so near that we can hear His heartbeat. God's heartbeat is for all people.

Seize every Opportunity

We need to have the passion to seize every small opportunity.

LESSONS TO LEARN AND TO OBEY

The question is: "Will there be more sheep or more goats when Christ returns?"

The answer lies with you and me.

- a. Let us be set on fire for Christ.
- b. Let us allow God to kick us out into the fields.

Matthew 9:37-38

³⁷Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field."